

predetermined position inside the first end of the take-up side core tube when the intermediate connector is in engagement with the first end, the predetermined position being where the protrusion formed to the tip end of the spool locates and engages the groove when the spool is engaged with the intermediate connector.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-54, 58-67 and 71-110 are pending. By this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, claims 92-110 are added.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Kevin M. McKinley
Registration No. 43,794

JAO:KMMMpmo

Date: January 23, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--